

Trench. Club under M. Petilleau's guidance, an excursion with Vizetelly and a fellow-journalist to County Council and Eowton lodging-houses, Eothsechild almshouses, various sweaters' dens, sundry Jewish homes in Whitechapel, and Italian ones at Saffron Hill. On the whole, however, Zola was not impressed by what he saw of London poverty; he declared it to be nothing in comparison with what might be found in Paris. There was much want, no doubt, but it struck him that the passer-by saw little of it. And to emphasise his meaning he reminded Vizetelly of the Parisian ragpickers' "lie des Singes" and the woeful Eoute de la E^volte, which certainly has never had its parallel in modern London.

Westminster Abbey naturally interested him, though his visit was a very perfunctory one, owing to the haste of the usual verger with the sing-song voice. When one first entered the abbey, however, some afternoon service was in progress, and after standing and watching for a time, Zola whispered to Vizetelly: "I did not know this was still a Catholic Church/" " It is Church of England — Protestant," Vizetelly answered, whereupon Zola seemed lost in astonishment. "Protestant?" he whispered again, well, all that is very much like Mass to me." Then he shrugged his shoulders and led the way outside, where one waited till the service was over. At the National Gallery he was most interested in Turner, whom he called *la yalette incarnee* and whom he regarded as being far superior to Claude. And he greatly admired Turner's water-colour sketches in the little rooms ||

p
in the basement of the building, where he lingered for nearly ||
|| a couple of hours. The British Museum Library also pleased him immensely, notably on account of its perfect arrange- III